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Docket No.: 1553-018

7-18-62

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Group Art Unit:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Takayoshi HIGASHINO et al.

Serial No. Not yet assigned :

Filed: herewith : Examiner: N/A

For: BINDER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The binder according to claim 1, characterized in that the baseforming members are common in shape and that the base is formed by combining the baseforming members.

Please add claim 4 as follows:

-- 4. The binder according to claim 2, characterized in that the base-forming members are common in shape and that the base is formed by combining the base-forming members.--